

The Ramsey House
Knoxville, Tennessee (vicinity) 6 miles E.

Knox Co.

TN
FILE NO. 12-104
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT NO. 19

Historic American Buildings Survey
J. Frazer Smith, District Officer
36 So. Evergreen, Memphis, Tenn.

ALBANY
FOLIO 18

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J.G.M.RAMESY HOUSE
Seven Miles East of Knoxville on
Thorn Grove Pike
Knox County, Tennessee

Owner: Not given. Occupied by tenants.

Date of Erection: Before 1797 (see following page); 1790 (see drawing).

Architect: Thomas Hope (tradition).¹

Builder: Thomas Hope (tradition).

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following page.

¹History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee, by Garden Study Club
of Nashville, pp. 86,87.

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J.G.M. RAMSEY HOUSE
Seven Miles East of Knoxville on
Thorn Grove Pike
Knox County, Tennessee

HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE:

This house was the home of J.G.M. Ramsey, the historian, and son of F.A. Ramsey. Here was written his history of Tennessee.¹

The house was built by the architect, Thomas Hope, who had been brought from England by Ralph Izard in 1757 in order to build Izard's Charleston home. The date of the Ramsey house is somewhere between 1757 and 1797, the year J.G.M. Ramsey was born in the house.¹

The walls of the house are of red cedar marble, quarried nearby, and cut into irregular blocks. Blue flint has been used in the chimneys and in the window arches and jambs.¹

From indications on the south wall the original porch was two storeys high and ran three-quarters the length of the front elevation. The present porch is a later addition.²

The main cornice has the typical eighteenth century modillions. Lending interest to the cornice are large brackets, placed vertically in pairs at each corner of the building and carved with guilloches and sun-bursts.³

The little stone kitchen wing is attached to the corner of the main building and is a unique example in the neighborhood.³ There is an outside oven in the kitchen chimney.¹

¹History of the Homes and Gardens of Tennessee, by Garden Study Club of Nashville, pp. 86, 87.

²Given by Ben J. McMurry, through J. Frazer Smith, District Officer, 1934.

³By H.C.F.

By *Harry Chandler Forman*
May 1936

Ramsey House
Thorngrove Pike, 6 miles east of Knoxville
Knox County
Tennessee

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Addendum To:

J.G.M. Ramsey Residence
Knoxville Vicinity
Knox County
Tennessee

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS